

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

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USIA-15 SCCT-02 SY-04 FBIE-00 USSS-00 NIC-01 A-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4143

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LIMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 8445

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PROP AG MX

SUBJECT: ARGENTINE POLITICAL FIGURES IN MEXICO

REF: BUENOS AIRES 7316

1. ON HIS ARRIVAL IN MEXICO CITY SEPT 28 DR. MARIO RAUL LAGUZZI, AN EX-RECTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BUENOS AIRES, AND HIS WIFE WERE MET BY PROMINENT MEXICAN EDUCATORS, INCLUDING THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR EDUCATIONAL PLANNING AND COORDINATION, DR. ROGER DIAZ DE COSSIO; THE RECTOR OF THE NATIONAL AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY OF MEXICO, DR. GUILLERMO SOBERON ACEVEDO; THE RECTOR OF THE METROPOLITAN AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY, PEDRO RAMIREZ VAZQUEZ; AND THE RECTOR OF THE NATIONAL POLYTECHNICAL INSTITUTE, DR. JOSE GERZTL VALENZUELA.

2. AFTER EXPRESSING HIS GRATITUDE TO PRES. CEHEVERRIA AND THE MEXICAN PEOPLE FOR GRANTING HIM ASYLUM HERE, LAGUZZI, RESPONDING TO PRESS INQUIRES ON THE WAVE OF VIOLENCE WHICH HAS BROKEN OUT IN ARGENTINA, CHARGES THAT U.S. CONFIDENTIAL

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IMPERIALISM IS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY

PRESENTED BY THE DEATH OF PERON TO ACT WITH IMPUNITY. HE ADMITTED THAT HE COULD NOT AFFIRM WITH CERTAINTY THAT THE CIA HAD INTERVENED BUT ASSERTED THIS "POSSIBILITY" WAS "VERY CLOSE TO THE TRUTH."

3. ADDITIONALLY, NACHA GUEVARA, A WELL-KNOWN SINGER, AND NORMAN BRISKY, AN ACTOR, ARRIVED ON THE SAME FLIGHT AND ALSO MADE STATEMENTS AT THE AIRPORT. GUEVARA SAID THE REASON SHE AND HER FAMILY FLED ARE WELL KNOWN AND THAT SHE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER THE "NIGHTMARE" IN ARGENTINA IS "A DREAM OR A TERRIBLE REALITY." BRISKY SAID THAT LEAVING ARGENTINA WAS "A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH."

4. THE NEW ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO, DR. ANGEL FEDERICO ROBLEDO, ALSO SPOKE TO THE PRESS ON HIS ARRIVAL SEPTEMBER 29. HE REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THE VIOLENCE IN HIS COUNTRY IS A REFLECTION OF THE VIOLENCE TAKING PLACE IN MANY COUNTRIES AND THAT IT IS SUBSERVIENT TO INTERNATIONAL ACTIONS OF A POLITICAL CHARACTER. HOWEVER, WHEN ASKED IF U.S. IMPERIALISM WAS RESPONSIBLE AS LAGUZZI HAD ASSERTED, ROBLEDO RESPONDED HE CONSIDERED LAGUZZI'S OPINION A PERSONAL ONE AND HE DID NOT KNOW THE BASIS FOR IT. IN ADDITION, HE SAID THAT THE SITUATION OF DR. CAMPORA IS AN INTERNAL PROBLEM OF THE JUSTICIAL MOVEMENT AND DECLINED COMMENT ON THE CLANDESTINE GROUPS WHICH ARE TERRORIZING ARGENTINA.

5. DR. HECTOR J. CAMPORA TOLD REPORTERS IN AN INTERVIEW SEPT 26 THAT HE INTENDS TO RETURN TO HIS COUNTRY SOON TO PARTICIPATE IN THE POLITICAL STRUGGLE THERE.

6. COMMENT: EMBASSY UNCERTAIN AS TO WHY GOM NOT INFREQUENTLY RISKS DAMAGE TO DIPLOMATIC RELATIONSHIPS AS IN THIS CASE IN ORDER TO MAKE GESTURE WHICH DOES NOT SEEM TO PROVIDE COMPENSATING BENEFIT. ON SEPT 12, THE GOM GRANTED ASLYUM TO AN ESCAPED CONVICT, MIGUEL EDUARDO ZAMORA GONZALEZ, IN CARACAS DESPITE GOV ASSERTIONS THAT HE WAS ONLY A COMMON CRIMINAL. WE ALSO RECALL THAT ECHEVERRIA WAS VERY CRITICAL OF THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT TAKEOVER OF THE PRESS. SINCE WE KNOW OF NO REASON FOR
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GOM DESIRING TO EMBARRASS GOA, GOV, OR GOP IN VIEW OF CORDIAL RELATIONS, PARTICULARLY WITH GOV, WE ASSUME THAT ECHEVERRIA ACTIONS BASED ON (1) DEEP COMMITMENT TO ASLYUM CONCEPT, (2) DESIRE TO WIN APPLAUSE FROM MEXICAN (AND OTHER) LEFT. AS IN HIS OWN RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES, ECHEVERRIA IS APT TO FORGET THAT IN TODAY'S ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS WORLD, STATEMENTS MADE IN MEXICO FOR INTERNAL POLITICAL CONSUMPTION FIND INSTANT REPERCUSSION

ABROAD WITH OPPOSITE EFFECT. JOVA

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